

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/670,791

Examiner

Sajous Wesner

Applicant(s)

BUI ET AL.

Art Unit

2676

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment of 10/8/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2 and 5-14.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 27 September 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
  1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

## DETAILED ACTION

### Remarks

This communication is responsive to the amendments and response filed on ~~October 8~~, 2004. Claims 1-2, and 5-14 are currently presented for examination.

### *Allowable Subject Matter*

1. Claims 1-2 and 5-14, after further consideration and search, are allowed over the prior art.

### Reasons for Allowance

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The present invention is directed to a method that uses theming functions of a theme manager to render graphical components in a themed fashion. The method is to provide a system that uses a different graphical component library, either theme-aware or theme-independent, as appropriate depending on the nature of each rendering request.

The prior art of record, particularly, the Johnson, Jr. reference (US 6243102 or 6104391 or 5959624 or 6239795) teaches systems and methods for providing a user with increased flexibility and control over the appearance and behavior of objects on a user interface by grouping objects into themes to provide the user with a distinct overall impression of the interface, and switching the themes dynamically by switching pointers to drawing procedures (see abstract's and col. 17, lines 21-67 and col. 29, lines 33-54

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of the US 6243102 patent). However, Johnson fails to teach issuing, by the graphical component library in response to receiving a theme-independent graphical component render request from an application, a rendering service request for a graphical component, the request including at least one component defining parameter and a theme handle, the theme handle being a reference to a predetermined set of appearance characteristics stored in an internal data structure accessible to the appearance manager (claim 1), and rendering, by the appearance manager, the theme-independent graphical component render request in accordance with the theme handle (as in claim 10). Accordingly, claims 1-2 and 5-14 of the instant application are allowed over the prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### **Conclusion**

**Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Box

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, DC 20231

or faxed to:

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(703) 308-9051, (for formal communications; please mark "EXPEDITED  
PROCEDURE")

Or:

(703) 308-5359 for informal or draft communications, please label "PROPOSED"

or DRAFT")


Hand-held delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive,  
Arlington, VA , 6th floor (receptionist).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the  
examiner should be directed to Wesner Sajous whose telephone number is (703) 308-  
5857. The examiner can also be reached on Mondays thru Thursdays and on alternate  
Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's  
Supervisor, Matthew Bella, can be reached at (703) 308-6829. The fax phone number  
for this group is (703) 308-6606.

Wesner Sajous -WS-

  
December 14, 2004

  
MATTHEW C. BELLA  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600